

database to find the unique image (or media players) data corresponding to the unique data . . . .”

The cited passage in column 4 of Houvener states:

At the database site, the system receives the information presented at the point of identification terminal and searches the database to find the unique image data corresponding to the unique data. The system then transmits the image data to the point of identification terminal where it is displayed on a display means. Finally, the system incorporates a means for verifying that an identifier present at the point of verification has adequately verified that the digital image displayed on the display means matches physical or biometric information provided by the person to be identified at the point of identification terminal.”

The cited passage in column 6 of Houvener states:

The identifier, which would be the sales clerk in a retail establishment, would only need to input the credit card information into one device and would receive both credit approval and identity verification from a single source. In this scenario, input/output controller 13 would initiate a credit authorization request to an outside CAA 23 through modem bank 14 over public access telephone lines 12 or through a WAN connection 14' or the like. If the amount of the transaction is approved by the CAA 23, the database site would receive the credit approval code from the CAA and retransmit the code to the point of verification terminal along with the digital image information or other unique data over its established communications link. The credit approval code would be displayed either on the display means 6 of the point of verification terminal or, in the alternative, on an optional second display means 6'.

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, an “identification system module containing an authorization code describing which media players are authorized to read digital data from said digital storage medium” is not disclosed by Houvener. The Examiner appears to equate the use of a terminal to retrieve image data from a remote database with the limitation of “an identification system module . . . containing an authorization code describing which media players are authorized to read digital data from said digital storage medium.” There is no basis or suggestion in the prior art supporting this novel interpretation of the prior art. The Examiner's

rejection, therefore, is unsupported by the prior art and should be withdrawn.

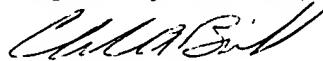
Claims 26-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Houvener. The applicant respectfully disagrees. Claims 26-30 depend from Claim 25 and should be deemed allowable for that reason an on their own merits. The Examiner has not attempted to read the prior art onto the additional limitations of Claims 26-30. The Examiner's rejection, therefore, is unsupported by the prior art and should be withdrawn.

Claims 31 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Houvener. The applicant respectfully disagrees. The Examiner, states, "Regarding to claims 31 and 32, the claimed invention have the similar limitations as claim 25 and therefore the same rejection applied." [sic] A casual reading of Claim 31, and Claim 38—which the Examiner failed to address—show this simply is not accurate. The Examiner has failed to show that Houvener discloses any of the elements of Claims 31 and 38. The Examiner's rejection, therefore, is unsupported by either prior art or argument and should be withdrawn.

Claims 32-37 and 39-42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Houvener. The applicant respectfully disagrees. Claims 32-37 and 39-42 depend from Claims 31 and 38 and should be deemed allowable for that reason an on their own merits. The Examiner has not attempted to read the prior art onto the additional limitations of Claims 32-37 and 39-42. The Examiner's rejection, therefore, is unsupported by the prior art and should be withdrawn.

In view of the amendments and the remarks presented herewith, it is believed that the claims currently in the application, Claims 1-42, accord with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112 and are allowable over the prior art of record. Therefore, it is urged that Claims 1-42 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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